

a multifamily property owned or held by the Secretary is not feasible for continued rental assistance payments under such section 8 or other programs, based on consideration of (1) the costs of rehabilitating and operating the property and all available Federal, State, and local resources, including rent adjustments under section 524 of the Multifamily Assisted Housing Reform and Affordability Act of 1997 ("MAHRAA") and (2) environmental conditions that cannot be remedied in a cost-effective fashion, the Secretary may, in consultation with the tenants of that property, contract for project-based rental assistance payments with an owner or owners of other existing housing properties, or provide other rental assistance. The Secretary shall also take appropriate steps to ensure that project-based contracts remain in effect prior to foreclosure, subject to the exercise of contractual abatement remedies to assist relocation of tenants for imminent major threats to health and safety. After disposition of any multifamily property described under this section, the contract and allowable rent levels on such properties shall be subject to the requirements under section 524 of MAHRAA.

SA 2804. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 3074, making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 147, after line 11, insert the following:

TITLE V—PUBLIC HOUSING EQUAL TREATMENT ACT

SEC. 501. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the "Public Housing Equal Treatment Act of 2007".

SEC. 502. TREATMENT OF CERTAIN PREVIOUSLY ASSISTED PUBLIC HOUSING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 9 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437g) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(o) ENSURING CORRECT ASSISTANCE.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in determining the allocations for each public housing agency from the Operating and Capital Funds pursuant to this section, the Secretary shall include as dwelling units eligible for such assistance all public housing dwelling units that—

"(1) are owned by the public housing agency at the time of such determination; and

"(2) before the date of the enactment of the Public Housing Equal Treatment Act of 2007 have received development, operating, capital, or modernization assistance pursuant to the terms of any agreement with Department of Housing and Urban Development authorizing the agency to expend such funds on behalf of such units."

(b) APPLICABILITY.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply with respect to assistance under section 9 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 for fiscal year 2008 and each fiscal year thereafter.

SA 2805. Mr. LAUTENBERG submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 3074, making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 76, line 23, after "receivership" insert ", including public housing agencies that are under a Memorandum of Agreement, Corrective Action Plan, or other arrangement with the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to facilitate improvement of their voucher program and that are not in default of such an agreement, plan, or arrangement."

SA 2806. Ms. CANTWELL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 3074, making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. (a) Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Transportation shall submit a report to Congress that describes the average marginal production cost of making any new passenger automobile with a gross vehicle weight under 10,000 pounds sold in the United States capable of using a flexible fuel mixture.

(b) In this section, the term "flexible fuel mixture" means—

(1) any mixture of gasoline and ethanol that is up to 85 percent ethanol;

(2) any mixture of gasoline and methanol that is up to 85 percent methanol; or

(3) any mixture of diesel and biodiesel that is 85 percent biodiesel, as measured by volume.

SA 2807. Mr. REID submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 3074, making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of the sections under the heading "GENERAL PROVISIONS" at the end of title I, add the following:

SEC. 1 _____. (a) Notwithstanding sections 109, 111, 131, and 402 of title 23, United States Code (including regulations promulgated to carry out those sections), none of the funds made available by this Act may be used by the Secretary of Transportation to withhold funds provided by this Act from any State for the implementation of any program under which a State, or any of the agents, designees, or lessees of the State, acknowledges roadside maintenance by a non-State entity through living plant materials that are arranged to identify the name or logo of the non-State entity providing the maintenance.

(b) Any funds paid to a State under a program described in subsection (a) shall be—

(1) considered to be State funds (as defined in section 101(a) of title 23, United States Code); and

(2) made available for expenditure under the direct control of the applicable State transportation department (as defined in section 101(a) of title 23, United States Code).

NOTICES OF HEARINGS

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the infor-

mation of the Senate and the public that an oversight hearing has been scheduled before the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

The hearing will be held on Thursday, September 27, 2007, at 9:30 a.m. in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The purpose of this hearing is to receive testimony on hard-rock mining on Federal lands.

Because of the limited time available for the hearing, witnesses may testify by invitation only. However, those wishing to submit written testimony for the hearing record should send it to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate, Washington, DC 20510-6150, or by e-mail to gina_weinstock@energy.senate.gov.

For further information, please contact Patty Beneke at 202-224-5451 or Gina Weinstock at (202) 224-5684.

COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I wish to announce that the Committee on Rules and Administration will meet on Wednesday, September 12, 2007, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing on the Nomination of Robert C. Tapella of Virginia, to be Public Printer, Government Printing Office.

For further information regarding this hearing, please contact Howard Gantman at the Rules and Administration Committee, 224-6352.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs be authorized to meet on Monday, September 10, 2007, at 9:30 a.m. in order to conduct a hearing entitled "Confronting the Terrorist Threat to the Homeland: Six Years After 9/11."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Jacqueline Beatty-Smith, Smith a fellow in Senator REID's office, be accorded the privileges of the floor during consideration of H.R. 3074, the Transportation appropriations bill and any votes therein.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRANSPORTATION APPROPRIATIONS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, we haven't made as much progress on the Transportation bill as I had wished, but we

are making progress. This is what happens with these complicated bills on occasion. Tomorrow night people should expect votes into the night. It will not be an early evening tomorrow. We have a lot to do on this bill. I have spoken to the distinguished Republican leader. Senator MCCONNELL said they will have an alternative to the Mexican truck measure offered by Senator DORGAN. Hopefully, sometime in the morning we can get those teed up for a vote. We also have been told by Senator COBURN that he has a number of amendments he wishes to offer. He said he would be here at 10:30 in the morning to begin offering those amendments. I have found Senator COBURN in the past doesn't need to talk very long, doesn't want to talk very long. I am sure that will be the case with this bill. I am glad he is coming over in the morning at 10:30. If others have amendments to offer, they should do so. It is my understanding Senator COBURN has a number of amendments. If that is the case and we can't stack these votes, what we will do is, the first vote could come as early as 11 o'clock or thereabouts tomorrow.

We have a lot to do. The fiscal year is coming to a close, and we have a number of must-do issues. We will work on those. I have spoken today, as I indicated, to the distinguished Republican leader about how we would proceed next week on Iraq matters. I think we are making progress on how we should proceed. These are very hotly contested issues, very important. We want to make sure people have the opportunity to speak on this without delaying things for an extended period of time.

Tomorrow morning I am going to ask consent to go to conference on H.R. 1538, which is the Wounded Warrior/military pay raise bill. There was a Republican objection to that request the last time. I hope this time the result will be different so we can send this important bill, which means so much to our men in uniform, to conference. We need to send that to conference. So we will proceed to that unanimous consent request tomorrow morning. I will not do that tonight.

PANCREATIC CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the HELP Committee be discharged from further consideration of and the Senate proceed to S. Res. 222.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 222) supporting the goals and ideals of Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to,

and the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 222) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 222

Whereas over 37,170 people will be diagnosed with pancreatic cancer this year in the United States;

Whereas pancreatic cancer is the 4th most common cause of cancer death in the United States;

Whereas 75 percent of pancreatic cancer patients die within the first year of their diagnosis and only 5 percent survive more than 5 years, making pancreatic cancer the deadliest of any cancer;

Whereas there has been no significant improvement in survival rates in the last 25 years and pancreatic cancer research is still in the earliest scientific stages;

Whereas there are no early detection methods and minimal treatment options for pancreatic cancer;

Whereas when symptoms of pancreatic cancer generally present themselves, it is too late for an optimistic prognosis, and the average survival rate of those diagnosed with metastasis of the disease is only 3 to 6 months;

Whereas the incidence rate of pancreatic cancer is 40 to 50 percent higher in African Americans than in other ethnic groups; and

Whereas it would be appropriate to observe November as Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month to educate communities across the Nation about pancreatic cancer and the need for research funding, early detection methods, effective treatments, and treatment programs: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate supports the goals and ideals of Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month.

NATIONAL CELIAC DISEASE AWARENESS DAY

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to S. Res. 314.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 314) designating September 13, 2007, as "National Celiac Disease Awareness Day."

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 314) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 314

Whereas celiac disease affects approximately 1 in every 130 people in the United States, for a total of 3,000,000 people;

Whereas the majority of people with celiac disease have yet to be diagnosed;

Whereas celiac disease is a chronic inflammatory disorder that is classified as both an

autoimmune condition and a genetic condition;

Whereas celiac disease causes damage to the lining of the small intestine, which results in overall malnutrition;

Whereas, when a person with celiac disease consumes foods that contain certain protein fractions, that person suffers a cell-mediated immune response that damages the villi of the small intestine, interfering with the absorption of nutrients in food and the effectiveness of medications;

Whereas these problematic protein fractions are found in wheat, barley, rye, and oats, which are used to produce many foods, medications, and vitamins;

Whereas because celiac disease is a genetic disease, there is an increased incidence of celiac disease in families with a known history of celiac disease;

Whereas celiac disease is underdiagnosed because the symptoms can be attributed to other conditions and are easily overlooked by doctors and patients;

Whereas, as recently as 2000, the average person with celiac disease waited 11 years for a correct diagnosis;

Whereas ½ of all people with celiac disease do not show symptoms of the disease;

Whereas celiac disease is diagnosed by tests that measure the blood for abnormally high levels of the antibodies of immunoglobulin A, anti-tissue transglutaminase, and IgA anti-endomysium antibodies;

Whereas celiac disease can only be treated by implementing a diet free of wheat, barley, rye, and oats, often called a "gluten-free diet";

Whereas a delay in the diagnosis of celiac disease can result in damage to the small intestine, which leads to an increased risk for malnutrition, anemia, lymphoma, adenocarcinoma, osteoporosis, miscarriage, congenital malformation, short stature, and disorders of skin and other organs;

Whereas celiac disease is linked to many autoimmune disorders, including thyroid disease, systemic lupus erythematosus, type 1 diabetes, liver disease, collagen vascular disease, rheumatoid arthritis, and Sjogren's syndrome;

Whereas the connection between celiac disease and diet was first established by Dr. Samuel Gee, who wrote, "if the patient can be cured at all, it must be by means of diet";

Whereas Dr. Samuel Gee was born on September 13, 1839; and

Whereas the Senate is an institution that can raise awareness in the general public and the medical community of celiac disease: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates September 13, 2007, as "National Celiac Disease Awareness Day";

(2) recognizes that all people of the United States should become more informed and aware of celiac disease;

(3) calls upon the people of the United States to observe the date with appropriate ceremonies and activities; and

(4) respectfully requests the Secretary of the Senate to transmit a copy of this resolution to the Celiac Sprue Association, the American Celiac Society, the Celiac Disease Foundation, the Gluten Intolerance Group of North America, and the Oklahoma Celiac Support Group No. 5 of the Celiac Sprue Association.

MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—H.R. 1908

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I understand that H.R. 1908 is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bill by title for the first time.